

REMARKS

By this Amendment claim 21 has been amended to change its dependency and to correct an inadvertent occurrence of dittography. New claims 27-41 have been added. Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 6-22 and 24-41 will be pending.

New claims 27-31 parallel claims 19-22 and 26, except that where claim 19 recites that the agent is substantially pure, claim 27 recites that the agent is present in a mammal other than a mouse. Claims 32 and 33 recite that the mammal is a human. Support for new claims 27-33 may be found, *inter alia*, in original claims 19-22 and on page 30, last paragraph. Support for new claims 34-41 may be found, *inter alia*, on pages 28-32. Entry of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

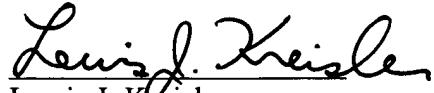
4-(3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)phenyl)-4-oxobutyric acid is metabolized in mice, rats, dogs and humans to 4-(3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl)-4-hydroxybutanoic acid and 3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenylacetic acid. The administration of 4-(3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)phenyl)-4-oxobutyric acid to treat certain metabolic disorders is disclosed in WO 02/100341 (Wellstat Therapeutics Corp.).

A fee transmittal sheet is enclosed to cover the additional claims fee. No fee, other than the additional claims fee, is believed necessary in connection with the filing of this

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Amendment. If any additional fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the amount of such fee to Deposit Account No. 50-1677.

Respectfully submitted,


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